Message Text

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66

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 ACDA-19 SR-02 ORM-03 OMB-01 DRC-01 /130 W ------ 009275

R 181025Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6597 INFO AMEMBASSY DACCA AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD AMEMBASSY KARACHI AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI USMISSION GENEVA

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EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, SREF, PK, IN, BG SUBJECT: REPATRIATION

REF: ISLAMABAD 9006

1. IN ADDITION TO REPATRIATION TAKING PLACE UNDER TERMS OF DELHI AGREEMENT, KATHMANDU CONTINUES TO BE CENTER OF SIGNIFICANT SUPPLEMENTARY REPATRIATION PROGRAM. DURING CALL ON PAKISTANI CHARGE, DCM WAS TOLD THAT REPATRIATION OF REFUGEES (PRIMARILY BIHARIS) FROM KATHMANDU PROCEEDING AT RATE OF APPROXIMATELY 80-90 PER DAY. ONLY THOSE REFUGEES ARE BEING REPATRIATED WHO ARRIVED IN NEPAL PRIOR TO AUGUST 28 DELHI AGREEMENT. OF THESE HE ESTIMATED THAT ABOUT 4-6,000 WERE CURRENTLY IN NEPAL AND ELIGIBLE FOR REPATRIATION. ACCORDING TO PAKISTANI CHARGE, 16,000 REFUGEES HAVE ALREADY BEEN REPATRIATED.

2. CHARGE NOTED HE WAS FACED WITH SERIOUS NEW PROBLEM WITH RESPECT TO REFUGEES WHO HAD ARRIVED AFTER AUGUST 28. THEY NOW NUMBER 2500 AND ARE CONTINUING TO ARRIVE AT WHAT HE DESCRIBED AS ALARMING RATE. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAKISTANI GOVERNMENT HAS TAKEN POSITION THAT THESE REFUGEES NOT

ELIGIBLE FOR REPATRIATION. SOME OF THESE REFUGEES ARE DESTITUTE AND PAKISTANI EMBASSY HAS ONLY LIMITED FUNDS TO TAKE CARE OF THEM

3. COMMENT: WHILE IN TERMS OF OVERALL REPATRIATION EFFORT,
KATHMANDU PROBLEM IS RELATIVELY SMALL, ULTIMATELY SOME ARRANGEMENTS
WILL HAVE TO BE MADE FOR REPATRIATION OF POST-AUGUST 28 REFUGEES IF
FRICTIONS BETWEEN PAKISTANI AND NEPALESE GOVERNMENTS NOT TO
DEVELOP. PRESS HAS FOR SOME TIME BEEN RAISING ALARMS CONCERNING
INFLUX OF REFUGEES, AND ISSUE COULD IN TIME BECOME A RELATIVELY
EMOTIONAL ONE.
CARGO

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
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Type: TE

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